Message Text

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ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 EB-11 XMB-07 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 OPIC-12 DRC-01

/102 W ----- 092915

R 071033Z JUN 73 FM AMEMBASSY DACCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3297 USMISSION OECD PARIS INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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PASS MAC DONALD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID, EFIN, BG

SUBJECT: DEPT - CURRENT STATUS DEBT NEGOTIATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN MEETING CALLED BY SECRETARY PLANNING COMMISSION, LETTER AND AIDE MEMOIRE WERE PASSED TO AMBASSADOR COVERING PRESENT STATUS BDG POSITION ON OUR DEBT NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE. AIDE MEMOIRE STRESSES NEED TO ACHIEVE OVERALL 84 PERCENT GRANT ELEMENT FROM ALL CREDITORS COMBINED. LETTER ADDRESSED TO SCHWARZWALDER ACCEPTS IN PRINCIPLE ALL LOANS EXCEPT TWO DEOBLIGATED PROJECTS. SUMMARY AND MISSION COMMENTS FOLLOW BELOW. EMD SUMMARY.

- 1. SECRETARY PLANNING COMMISSION CALLED JUNE 6 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND SCHWARZWALDER TO REVIEW PRESENT BDG POSITION AND TO PROVIDE AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH PASSED IN COMPARABLE FORMAT TO ALL DONORS AND LETTER TO SCHWARZWALDER FROM AHMED WHICH DETAILS FURTHER RESOLUTION OF REMAINING DIFFERENCES.
- 2. AIDE MEMOIRE STRESSES THAT THE TERMS OF REPAYMENTS AND SERVICES QUOTE SHOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH A DAC GOAL OF MINIMUM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF 84 PERCENT GRANT ELEMENT UNQUOTE. BASED ON PREVIOUS APRIL 18 LETTER FROM AHMED, AIDE MEMOIRE ACKNOWLEDGES AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON \$37 MILLION LEAVING \$49 MILLION WHICH THE BDG CANNOT ACCEPT FULLY. THE BDG IS DESIROUS

THAT ALL REMAINING CLAIMS BE RESOLVED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DEOBLIGATED LOANS 139 AND 052.

3. AIDE MEMOIRE REITERATES BDG DESIRE THAT THE TERMS OF REPAYMENT AND SERVICES QUOTE WILL NOT BE LESS FAVORABLE IN TOTAL FOR ALL

CREDITORS COMBINED THAN THE EQUIVALENT OF 84 PERCENT GRANT ELEMENT UNQUOTE. AIDE MEMOIRE CONCLUDES BY EXPRESSING ASSURANCES THAT CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE SPEEDILY AND AMICABLY CONCLUDED.

- 4. LETTER WAS GIVEN TO US IN CONFIDENCE AND WE UNDERSTAND SIMILAR LETTERS ARE NOT REPEAT NOT BEING PROVIDED OTHER DONORS AT THIS TIME. THE BDG HAS DECIDED TO QUOTE ACCOMMODATE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE UNQUOTE THE OUTSTANDING PRINCIPLE CLAIMS FOR THE FOLLOWING LOANS: CONSULTANT SERVICES (062, 124, 068, 136). FEASIBILITY STUDIES (058), AIRPORT (054), TELECOMMUNICATIONS (071) AND MALARIA ERADICATIONS (053, 084, 128, 135). FURTHERMORE, BDG ACCEPTSNTHESE LOANS IN PRICNCIPLE QUOTE SUBJECT TO NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS THAT MAY ARISE FROM CONTINUING SCRUTINY UNQUOTE OF AID DISBURSEMENT DOCUMENTATIONS AND IT IS MADE AVAILABLE.
- 5. THE LETTER EXPLICITLY EXCLUDES SAWMILL AND SEED POTATO AS THESE CONTRACTS QUOTE REMAIN UNFULFILLED AND ID NOT RESULT IN THE CREATION OF ASSESTS UNQUOTE. AS EXPRESSED BEFORE, USAID SEES LITTLE VIRTUE IN PRESSING THIS QUESTION MUCH MORE.
- 6. FOLLOWING THE SCHWARZWALDER TO AHMED LETTER DATED MAY 24, THIS JUNE 6 LETTER NOTES THE ASSURANCES THAT USAID WILL HELP TO COMPLETE THE TWO ON-GOING PROJECTS, CHITTAGONG PORT AND KARNAPHULI THIRD UNIT. THE LETTER ADDS QUOTE NECESSARY ACTION ON THIS WILL SOON BE INITIATED FROM OUR SIDE UNQUOTE. LETTER CONDLUDES BY EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT MACDONALD'S EFFORTS TO SECURE BETTER RESCHEDULING TERMS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.
- 7. SCHWARZWALDER QUERIED SECRETARY AS TOO THE MEANING OF QUOTE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS UNQUOTE AND QUOTE CONINUING SCRUTINY UNQUOTE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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WAS ASSURED THAT THESE QULAIFYING PHRASES WERE NOT TO BE TAKEN TOO SERIOUSLY AND THAT QUOTE CONTINUED SCRUTINY UNQUOTE INCLUDES ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF OUTSTANDING CONTRACTOR CLAIMS.

8. COMMENT: OF THE TWO DOCUMENTS PROVIDED US AT THIS MEETING, THE LETTER
IS BY FAR THE MORE IMPORTANT. WE FEEL THE AIDE MEMOIRE

REPRESENTS MINIMUM BDG OFFICIAL POSITION AT THIS TIME. LETTER, PROVIDED IN CONFIDENCE, CONFIRMS OUR VERBAL UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED DURING STAFF LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS. CLARIFICATIONS REMAIN BUT THE LETTER IN EFFECT STATES THAT BDG AGREES TO 99.8 PERCENT OF OUR AID LOANS.

9. COPIES BEING POUCHED AID/W DESK JUNE 11, 1974.

DECONTROL FOLLOWING JUNE 7, 1975. BOSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 02 APR 1999 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 07 JUN 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DACCA02594

Document Number: 1973DACCA02594 Document Source: ADS Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: DACCA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730634/abqceaiv.tel Line Count: 116 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Office: n/a

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: elyme Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 AUG 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <16-Oct-2001 by elyme>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: DEPT - CURRENT STATUS DEBT NEGOTIATIONS

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OECD PARIS INFO ISLAMABAD

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